

Deleted Transactions-Progress Report

The following is a status report on the production problem reported in Volume 4, Issue 67, "Tips and Techniques" (T&T).

Background: On August 27, 1998, MAIN staff confirmed a user's report that posted transactions had been deleted by the agency from the closed month of May, 1998. Deletion of transactions from closed months should not have been possible.

What's Been Done?

1. On Friday, August 28, MAIN staff were able to replicate the problem in the test region.
2. On Saturday, August 29, the R*STARS PF3 key, DELETE, was disabled on the 510 screen. Temporarily disabling the PF3 key will prevent a recurrence of the problem.
3. On Thursday, September 3, delete capability was restored for two MAIN staff members and a T&T was issued to inform users.
4. On Friday, September 4, MAIN staff confirmed:
 - for all FY98 payment transactions (e.g., TC282)
for which a payment had been issued, 18
transactions had been deleted.
 - for all other FY98 closed month transactions,
transactions had not been deleted.

The following summarizes how this was confirmed.

By comparing the FY98 monthly DAFR8920, General Ledger Fund Detail Trail Balance Report, to the Summary General Ledger table, we confirmed that only payment type transactions, e.g., TC282, were deleted from closed months.

By comparing the FY98 Payment Cancellation table to the Active and Inactive Accounting Event tables, we identified 18 deleted payment transactions. Payments had been issued for these transactions prior to their deletion. Of the 18 transactions, 9 were processed by CIS MSHDA (\$3,065) and 9 were processed by FIA (\$142). Six, \$97, of the nine FIA transactions were deleted from the closed month of May 1998. The remaining FIA transactions and all of the CIS MSHDA transactions were deleted from months prior to their closure. All inappropriate deletion of transactions occurred during the period of April 9, 1998, through June 30, 1998.

5. We have developed correcting entries for the loss of the original transactions (debit accrued expense and credit vouchers payable).

What's Being Done?

1. We realize that the disabling of the delete key, PF3, on the R*STARS 510 screen has inconvenienced users. However, maintaining system integrity by preventing inappropriate deletion of transactions is essential. Until the underlying software problem is corrected, MAIN staff will assist agencies if transactions need to be deleted. Volume 4, Issue #69 Tip and Techniques describes the process for obtaining assistance.

2. Developing, testing and implementing a software modification to prevent inappropriate deletion of transactions is our top priority.

3. We will be seeking approval from the Office of Financial Management, FIA and CIS MSHDA to process correcting entries for the 18 transactions which were deleted.

We appreciate the FIA staff promptly bringing this problem to our Help Desk's attention.

This page last updated Monday, April 3, 2000.